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interest. He took a prominent part in the organization of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific at its first meeting, on February 7, 1889; he was its first Vice-President, its second President, and, from its foundation until his untimely death, a member of the Board of Directors, and of the Finance and Comet-Medal Committees.

In addition to his continuous efforts to promote the welfare of the Society, he fitted out, at his own expense, an expedition to observe the Total Solar Eclipse in India in 1898, from which important scientific results were obtained; he enriched the equipment of three astronomical observatories in California by gifts of valuable instruments, and made generous financial contributions to this Society in time of need. For fifteen years he was the legal adviser of the Board of Directors of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, and was ever prepared to give to the Society the benefit of his sound judgment and advice. In him this Society has lost one of its truest friends.

A committee appointed by President EDWARDS, consisting of Messrs. Burckhalter, Cushing, and Ziel, presented the following resolutions on behalf of the members of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific:—

In Memoriam.

WHEREAS, WILLIAM MONTGOMERY PIERSON, a Charter Member, an ex-President, and a member of the Board of Directors from the foundation of the Society, has been claimed by death; and

WHEREAS, Mr. PIERSON was foremost in promoting the welfare of the Society, by his wise counsel and generous financial aid; therefore be it

Resolved, That in the death of this distinguished citizen this community has suffered a severe loss, and this Society one that is irreparable; and astronomical science a friend, willing both to do and to give;

Resolved, That, whether as members of this Society or as his personal friends, we have each sustained an individual loss;

Resolved, That in token of our appreciation of his effective help and of our love for him, these resolutions be spread in full on our minutes, and that a copy thereof be sent with our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved family of our departed friend.

SAN FRANCISCO, November 15, 1904.

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF THE PACIFIC.

CHARLES BURCKHALTER, CHAS. S. CUSHING, F. R. ZIEL,

Special Committee.

Adjourned.